New Technique to detect breast cancer

3178. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that a new technique has been discovered in London which detects breast cancer at a much earlier stage which will facilitate early treatment;

(b) if so, whether Government have given publicity to this technique and thus save women from such a deadly disease; and

(c) if so, the broad features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Three new techniques have been reported from London which help in early detection of breast cancer. These are :—

(i) Computer aided detection in mammography.

(ii) MRI breast scan.

(iii) Imaging with Tc-99 humanised anti-PEM monoclonal anti-body, HMFGI.

No publicity has been given about these techniques since the same are not yet considered to be established diagnostic techniques and are also not available at most of cancer hospitals. However, Self Breast Examination (SBE) is being promoted across the country for early detection of breast cancer as a cost effective method.

CGHS dispensaries in NER

3179. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of CGHS dispensaries functioning at present in the various cities of North-Eastern Region as on 31st March, 2003, location-wise.

(b) whether Government propose to open new CGHS dispensaries in this region particularly in the State of Assam during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WEFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) :

(a) The details of CGHS dispensaries functioning in the NER are as under :—

CGHS Guwahati has three dispensaries functioning at Hengerabari Road. Narengi Forest Gate, and at Bharalumukh, Guwahati.

CGHS Shillong has only one dispensary which functions near Post Office, Laitumphrah, Shillong-793003.

(b) and (c) During the Tenth Five Year Plan it is proposed to extend CGHS to the city of Imphal. However, it would be subject to availability of resources and *inter-se* priorities.

Homoeopathic CGHS Pharmacists

3180. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of posts of Homoeopathic CGHS Pharmacists lying vacant in Delhi till date;

(b) sanctioned strength and the actual strength of pharmacists for CGHS Homoeopathic dispensary at R. K. Puram, Sector 12, during the last two years and as on date;

(c) whether one pharmacist in the said dispensary is always on relieving duty on verbal orders of Additional Director (SZ)/Incharge;

(d) whether present strength of pharmacists in the above dispensary is sufficient to cope with beneficiaries attending daily; and

(e) if not, whether Government propose to appoint/fill up the vacant posts of pharmacists in the said dispensary?